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Congressman Carson "Centrist"
Oklahoma Congressman Noted By Washington Publication
As Reaching Across Partisan Divides

Washington, D.C. --

Eastern Oklahoma Congressman Brad Carson (D-OK) was rated in the most recent edition of the Washington D.C. publication, National Journal, as a "centrist" in the United States House of Representatives. This ranking places him as one of the members of Congress who are at the ideological center of the House of Representatives.

In the rankings, Members are assigned separate scores for their roll-call votes on key economic, social and foreign-policy issues. The 435 Members are rated in each of the three issue categories on both liberal and conservative scales, with the scores on each scale given as percentiles. For example, an economic score of 72 on the conservative scale, means that the Member was more conservative than 72 percent of his/her House colleagues in that issue area during 2002. The ratings also note missed votes (an asterisk in the list means that the Member missed more than half of the rated votes).

The periodical ranked Congressman Carson 55.5 on the liberal side and 45.5 on the conservative side of the House, ideologically split right down the middle.

"This ranking puts into numbers what I have tried to lay out in actions over my term in Congress," said Congressman Carson. "I honestly believe to be an effective as a Congressman, one must look past the partisan divide and be an advocate for things they believe will move our country in the right direction. The best advice I received when I came to the United States House of Representatives was that you can either be a constructive or destructive members of Congress, which was much more important the being a Democrat or Republican. I hope that my voting records shows I have tried diligently to be a constructive member of this body."

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